Sustainability conference planned in Aurora

Chicagotribune.com/suburbs/aurora-beacon-news/lifestyles/ct-abn-aurora-pulse-st-0421-20170418-story.html

Joy Davis 4/18/2017

The Fox Valley Sustainability Network will host GreenTown — a conference on sustainable communities — on April 27 in Aurora.

The full-day conference is designed to bring together public and private sectors to focus on creating more sustainable communities, according to organizers.

GreenTown events have taken place throughout the upper Midwest since 2007. This year's event marks the third time that GreenTown has been held in Kane County, previously in Elgin in 2011 and Aurora in 2015.

This year's event will feature a mayor's breakfast, a keynote address and breakout sessions focused on seven topics areas: economic development, energy, green infrastructure, local food, transportation, waste and water.

Speakers at the conference will be: Lindsay Bayley of the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning; Nate Summer of Heritage Prairie Farm; Carol Rauschenberger of Shared Harvest Food Co-Op; Ryan Anderson of Midwest Pesticide Action Center; Vito Greco of Elevate Energy; and Edith Makra of Metropolitan Mayors Caucus.

Sponsors include Applied Ecological Services, City of Aurora, City of Elgin, Chiro One Wellness Centers, Clarke, Grand Victoria Riverboat Fund, Kane County and Republic Services.

Registration is \$35 for public sector and nonprofit organizations, \$55 for private sector groups and individuals and \$20 for students. To register, go to greentownconference.com.

GreenTown is from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. at Two Brothers Roundhouse, 205 N. Broadway, Aurora.

Sewing seminar in La Fox

Garfield Farm Museum in La Fox will present a program on the skills of female settlers Sunday.

Museum volunteer Aimee Daramus will present the program, which will focus on the skills and abilities of women in the 1840s.

Daramus will discuss what knitting, crochet and quilting projects might have been like. She will also consider the influence of seasonal changes and contemporary fashions during the 1840s and early 1850s.

There is a \$6 donation for adults and \$3 for children under 13. For information or to RSVP, call 630-584-8485 or email info@garfieldfarm.org.

Flute concert in St. Charles

Norris Cultural Arts Center will continue its Music in the Gallery series Sunday.

The Fox Valley Flutes will perform at 3 p.m. Sunday.

Ticket prices are \$15 for adults and \$10 for children under 12. Tickets can be purchased at the box office by phone at 630-584-7200, online at norrisculturalarts.com or in person during the gallery's regular hours from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Wednesday through Sunday, at 1040 Dunham Road, St. Charles.

Free concert in Aurora

The Fox Valley Philharmonic Orchestra will perform a free concert in Aurora Sunday.

James Yarbrough will conduct solo performances by principal chair wind players in concerto works by Mozart and Cimarosa.

The full orchestra will perform Dvorak's "Slavonic Dances."

Admission is free, but free-will donations are appreciated, organizers said. The concert is partially supported by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council.

The Fox Valley Philharmonic Orchestra will perform at 3 p.m. at Our Savior Lutheran Church, 420 West Downer Place, Aurora.

Garden workshop in St. Charles

The Forest Preserve District of Kane County will host a garden workshop Sunday.

A Forest Preserve District naturalist will lead the interactive workshop. Attendees will learn about the natural and cultural impact of plant species that can grow in home gardens. Following a discussion, participants will be provided with a pot, soil and plants to create their own arrangements.

Registration is \$10 and includes materials. Call 630-444-3190 or email programs@kaneforest.com to register. For more information, visit kaneforest.com.

The gardening workshop is from 10 to 11 a.m. at Creek Bend Nature Center, 37W700 Dean St., St. Charles.

Got Pulse? Columnist Joy Davis is looking for interesting, quirky and just plain funny stories about people and places in the Fox Valley. Email her at joydavis234@gmail.com.